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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

25X1A

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Tank maneuvers between WITTEBERG and JUTERBORG

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EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED Germany

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A below

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 28 November 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

13 and 14 September 1949

1. A tank unit was observed to hold field exercises in the SCHWEINITZ (N 52/E 66) area during the night of 13 September 1949.

25X1A Eight tanks with 76.2-mm guns (camouflaged with leaves), two armored reconnaissance cars, two armored personnel carriers, four sidecar motorcycles, six trucks occupied by troops, the radio truck U 3-81-66, one tank truck, one ambulance and three 37-mm AT guns were observed. Having arrived in SCHWEINITZ during the late evening hours of 13 September 1949, the unit had its vehicles assume a position of all-around defense. Radio messages were transmitted and ground signals fired. After about 100 minutes the unit assembled and left towards HOLZDORF (N 52/E 76). The SA observed with the unit were between 18 and 20 years of age, some wearing artillery insignia and some tank insignia.

10 and 14 September 1949

2. a. Twenty JS tanks were observed to hold field exercise in the LUPTCHENSBYDA (N 52/E 57) area on 10 September 1949. The unit left this area going towards WITTEBERG (N 52/E 37) via REITEN-DORF (N 52/E 57) in the afternoon of the same day.

b. A field exercise with fifteen T34 tanks and about 100 infantry troops was observed in the MARK ZWUSCHEN (N 52/E 68)-MARK FRIEDRICHSDORF (N 52/E 58) area on 14 September 1949. The troops left towards JUTERBORG (N 52/E 69) in the afternoon of the same day.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 1979

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Comment:

The Soviet tank training grounds, originally comprising only the area east of LUETTICHENSEYDA, a former bomb target area of the German Air Force, has been extended as far as MARK ZWUSCHEN since the Spring of 1948.

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Comment:

The report is the first to state that tank and motorized units held field exercises in the area of the Gluecksburg Forest. It is assumed that this area is used for field exercises by units from the JUELTERBOG and WITTENBERG military posts.

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